

OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN Earl Blumenauer
APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST FORM
FISCAL YEAR 2010

- 1. Project Title:** Restoration of the Oregon Caves Chateau
- 2. Organization Name and address:** The Friends of the Oregon Caves and Chateau, P.O. Box 2195, Grants Pass, OR 97528
- 3. Primary Contact name, phone number, mobile phone number, fax number and email:** Sue Densmore, Executive Director, phone/mobile 541-944-1139, fax 541-471-1704, sue@FriendsOCAC.org
- 4. Project Location Address (if different from Organization):** Oregon Caves National Monument, 19000 Caves Highway, Cave Junction, OR 97523
- 5. Please describe the requesting organization's main activities, and whether it is a public, private non-profit, or private for-profit entity:** The Friends of the Oregon Caves and Chateau (Friends) is a non-profit organization, operating under the Fiscal Sponsorship of the Illinois Valley Community Development Organization, cooperating with the National Park Service (NPS) in the preservation, stewardship, and improvement of the cultural and natural resources of the Oregon Caves National Monument.
- 6. Briefly describe the activity or project for which funding is requested (please keep to 500 words or less.)** The Friends will oversee a complete interior and structural restoration of the Oregon Caves Chateau, a National Landmark, and primary historic structure in the ORCA monument, which is on the National Register of Historic Places. The first step in this multi-year project is the restoration of a Model Room, to allow the NPS, historic preservation specialists, architects, contractors and designers to do the needed research and to develop the Restoration and Rehabilitation Plans.

The National Park Service (NPS) owns the property and has offered its enthusiastic endorsement and has completed and authorized a General Agreement that supports the cooperative work of the NPS and the Friends. The Friends will help raise project donations and capital funds to restore and improve the facilities and to involve the community and visitors in future planning for the monument. More information can be found at www.FriendsOCAC.org.

While the Chateau retains its original character its interior and exterior are worn after 75 years' service.

Its outdated plumbing and electrical systems do not support the facility's effective contribution to its historic-integrity, or its potential for far more significant contribution to the local economy. It is time for the Chateau to return to that role and restore its full contribution to Oregon's culture and the local economy.



This project has been carefully advanced over the past five years. In 2005, the Illinois Valley Community Development Organization (IVCDO) adopted the goal of restoring the Chateau and to

establish the Friends as part of a strategic plan designed to strengthen the economic and social conditions in Oregon's rural southwest by developing programs designed to enhance the standard of living, create jobs and encourage sustainable community development in these areas.

While the plan's first phase will cost \$151,500, the entire restoration will cost between \$8 million and \$12 million. The goal of the Friends is to raise \$990,000, and only after interest in this project is demonstrated in Oregon by the success of the Friends' initiatives can we request that the balance of necessary funds will be a prioritized entry in the NPS budget.

7. Has this project received federal appropriations funding in past fiscal years? No

7a. If yes, please provide fiscal year, Department, Account, and funding amount of any previous funding.

8. Federal agency and account from which funds are requested (Please be specific –e.g. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Economic Development Initiatives account): US Department of Interior

9. What is the purpose of the project? Why is it a valuable use of taxpayer funds? How will the project support efforts to improve the economy and create jobs in Oregon? In addition to being an important element of our common heritage, the Oregon Caves National Monument constitutes a vital economic asset for the communities of the Illinois Valley, Grants Pass, the Oregon Coast and the State of Oregon. Since the development of the Friends beginning in 2007, visitor growth at the Monument has seen a steady increase. As the 2009 season opening approaches, the 100th Anniversary of the Caves and the 75th Anniversary of the Chateau, the Chateau is again experiencing a strong increase in advanced reservations. These trends all strongly suggest that, once the Chateau is fully restored, its full economic and cultural contributions to the region and the state will be fully realized.

The Cave's designation as a National Monument dates back to 1907 when Joaquin Miller – and internationally recognized American poet and journalist known as the Byron of the Rockies -- wrote about his experience in the cave in the first national article devoted to this natural wonder. Miller lobbied prominent Americans leading to President William Howard Taft's 1909 declaration of the caves as a National Monument. The Oregon Caves National Monument is one of the nation's oldest monuments. The Chateau was built during the depression to stimulate the local economy, the Oregon Caves – along with its unique Chateau -- are one of the most remarkable parts of Oregon and have traditionally been one of the most heavily visited sites in our state, it is time for the Chateau to again return to that prominence.

10. Have you requested funding for this project from other Members of Congress? Yes
If so, who? Congressman Peter DeFazio, Congressman David Wu, Congressman Kurt Schrader, Senator Ron Wyden, and Senator Jeff Merkely

11. Funding Details:

a. Total project cost (all funding sources and all years): 8 - 12 million.

b. Amount being requested for this project in Fiscal Year 2010: \$ 100,000

c. What other funding sources (local, regional, state) are contributing to this project or activity? (Please provide specific dollar amount or percentage.)

Secured: Fahey Family Foundation - \$20,000 over 4 years, REC Family Foundation - \$3,800, Avista Foundation - \$1,000, Individual Small Donors - \$5,000 **Applied For:** Architecture Foundation of Oregon - \$5,000, Carpenter Foundation – \$10,000, Cynthia Woods Mitchell - Historic Interiors - \$10,000, Kinsman Foundation - \$25,000 , NHT Preservation Funds– Western Region - \$5000, \$ 100,000 This application **Future:** Four Way Foundation - \$50,000, Meyer Memorial Trust - \$100,000, Save America’s Treasures \$100,000, Kinsman - \$75,000

d. Do you expect to request federal funding in future years for this project? The structural restoration of between \$8 million and \$10 million has been indicated as a future budget item in the NPS budget. The cost of the interior restoration \$ 990,000 must be covered by the Friends.

e. Breakdown/budget of the amount you are requesting for this project in FY 2010. (e.g. salary \$40,000; computer \$3,000):

		2008 (Base Year)	2009 (Year 1)	2010 (Year 2)	
REVENUE					
Membership		0	5,000	10,000	
Donations		9869	50,000	100,000	
Grants		(IVCDO) 36,035	175,00	520,000	
Events (gross)		0	30,000	100,000	
Bequests					
TOTAL		45,904	260,000	730,000	

EXPENSE					
Development					
Consultant		10,800	18,000	20,000	
Events			5,000	10,000	
Mailings		110	3,000	5,000	
Technology/Web		1830	2,000	3,000	
Donor Recognition			1,500	4,000	
Program					
Exec. Dir. (consult)		25,235	30,000	35,000	
Staff and Programs			11,950	450,000	
Materials and Services		1090	111,500	120,950	
Total		39,065	182,950	647,950	

**f. Please list public or private organizations that have supported/endorsed this project:
The Josephine County Commissioner Dave Toler, National Park Service, Southern Oregon Regional Economic Development Inc., Oregon State Legislator Ron Mauer (requested)**

g. Is this project scalable? (i.e. if partial funding is awarded, will the organization be able to use the funds in FY 2010?): Yes. We will develop the model room, restore the historic collection of Monterey Furniture and restore the interior and raise the money to complete the full restoration in stages as the funding become available.

Please return this form no later than February 13, 2009 (via email) to:

appropriations.blumenauer@mail.house.gov